

REMARKS:

Reconsideration of the rejections is respectfully requested.

Applicant gratefully acknowledges the designation of claim 16 as containing allowable subject matter. However, as discussed below, Applicant respectfully submits that the rejection to the other claims should be withdrawn.

The status of the claims is as follows:

Currently Amended	12, 22
Previously Cancelled:	1-11
Previously Presented:	12-14, 16-21
Previously Amended	15
New	23-31
Pending:	12-31

The changes to claims 12 and 22 simply make more clear the order of steps taught in the specification. The new claims simply parallel prior claims 13-21, but dependent on the second independent claim. No new matter is added.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. §103(a)

Rejection of Claims 12 and 15 Based on TDB-2

Claims 12 and 15 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) based on an assertion of being unpatentable over IBM Technical Disclosure Bulletin 16: 3561, April, 1974 ("TBD-2").

Applicant respectfully traverses.

TBD-2 Teaches as an essential feature of its process coating a ceramic sheet with the polymer PVA. The coated sheet is then impressed with a pattern. Metal powder paste is then squeegeed into the indentations. The purpose of the PVA is believed to be to smooth the surface and reduce adhesion of paste outside the indentations, where it would or could create a flaw in the multilayer ceramic. The purpose is to "form very narrow conductor lines." This goal is more readily obtainable with the squeegeeing method than with screen printing. Oddly, TBD-2 names

the process "screen printing", but describes it in detail as squeegeeing. Given the purpose, squeegeeing is also an essential feature.

To modify TBD-2 to match the process claimed, one would have to change the principle of operation of the TBD-2 process. As discussed in MPEP §2143.01, such a modification of the prior art cannot render a claim prima facie obvious. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that the rejection should be withdrawn.

Rejection of Claims 13 and 14 Based on TDB-2 and Amendola

Claims 12 and 15 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) based on an assertion of being unpatentable over TBD-2, in further view of Amendola, US 4,546,065. Applicant respectfully traverses.

Amendola teaches a process that uses a glaze to facilitate application of metal powder paste to channels. Amendola only fills the channels on top of a Multilayer ceramic after firing the stack. See 3: 24-30. Thus, Amendola's process, which is used to assure electrical connection between the upper leads and conductive vias, is not at all about internal conductive channels. Aside from this major difference, the Amendola process has the same essential features discussed above for TBD-2. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that the rejection should be withdrawn.

Rejection of Claims 17-20 Based on TDB-2 and Vitriol

Claims 17-20 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) based on an assertion of being unpatentable over TBD-2, in further view of Vitriol, US 5,028,473. Applicant respectfully traverses.

The Office Action indicates that Vitriol teaches making resistors and capacitors. Such resistors and capacitors are made without the aid of the channels used in the method now claimed. Applicant respectfully submits that Vitriol suggests nothing about what inks would be appropriate in the current method. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that the rejection should be withdrawn.

Rejections of Claim 21 Based on TDB-2 and Hayama; and Claim 22 Based on TBD-2 and Prabu

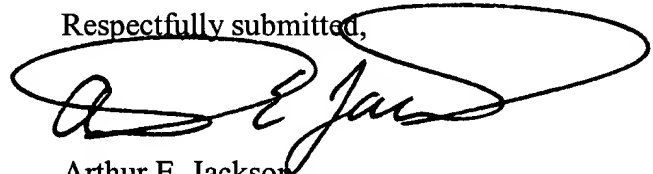
Claim 21 stood rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) based on an assertion of being unpatentable over TBD-2, in further view of Hayama, US 5,609,704. Claim 22 stood rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) based on an assertion of being unpatentable over TBD-2, in further view of Prabu, US 5,277,724. Applicant respectfully traverses.

Hayama teaches a squeegeeing process such as in the TBD-2, and consequently does not address the shortcomings of TBD-2 as a reference. Prabu also does not address the shortcomings of TBD-2 as a reference. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that the rejections should be withdrawn.

Conclusion

In light of these amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the Amendment should be entered, the rejections should be withdrawn, and that the application is in condition for allowance.²

Respectfully submitted,



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